## Compilation of Q&A for Ex-IM Reporting System RFI

## 1) Functionality

**How was the nine month timeframe delivery schedule established? Is there a business event driving this Project that affects the schedule?**
The Bank produces an annual report once a year. The annual report is compiled in December. The objective of this project is to be able to have the majority of the "Fiscal Year 2008 at a Glance" metrics readily available to Management (through dashboard(s)) to compile the report.

For example, the information for "Fiscal Year 2007 at a Glance" can be found at

http://www.exim.gov/about/reports/ar/ar2007/images/Year%20at%20a%20Glance.pdf

(Pages 14 and 15)

Section J.8.0.Performance Metrics for Dashboards (Up to D12- Summary Dashboard for Small Business) corresponds to these 2 pages.

An existing system is also in place with all related information in SQL commands to help describe the logic to build the reports.

**Do you expect active participation by key stakeholders?**
YES (several technical SME as well as key stakeholders will be active participants)

**What specific BI functionality must be made available to the internet web site?**
Basic viewing of public data, sorting, and downloading. The Bank will provide the contractor with the data elements (already defined) that can be shared on the Internet. The subset of data available to the public is comparable to the information provided by FFATA www.FFATA.org for Loan and Guarantees. Basic information on approved transactions and the ability for Internet users to download raw public data.

**Where does the "Small Business data" reside and how will access be assured?**
Small Business is a flag used in several systems to indicate the type of deal or customer (that flag QA is established in the transaction systems and not by the reporting tool)

**Will the SQL Server design and MS Access application be available for review?**
YES

**In J.8.4.(ebirs.IIS.Categories) - ("Appendix D – Categories of Reports in the IIS") there are 13 categories listed. What is the relationship between these categories and the "30 types of reports"?**

The categories are just an example to show how the existing IIS is structured. The replacement system is not going to follow these categories. The categories in IIS and the reports names have a relationship for identifying the code in IIS for the SQL commands used to produce the existing reports.

## 2) Technical

**Number of users of the pilot and final solution.** Internally (The pilot (10 users), the final internal system 500 users). On the Internet: public access to public data (any)

**Does the Bank currently use Active Directory?**
YES (also have LDAP interfaces to AD)

**Performance Snapshot data – Is this required to be stored at the data warehouse level or is it required only at the report level or at the cube level**

After the end of year closing of the financial books, Performance Snapshot data will definitely be stored at the data warehouse level. Weekly detailed information can be stored at the report level.

## Is Any of the data to be included in data warehouse solution unstructured
Initially structured data. As we integrate (over time- Not in the initial prototype or basic core system described in the RFI) other systems and capabilities, we may be interested in unstructured data used for Risk monitoring (for example, country or lender risk)

## How many years of historical data will be converted to the new data warehouse?
1984-2008 (The system is not presently a data warehouse. It contains well populated data starting from 1984 transactions. It also contains data from earlier year but with a limited set of data elements)

**How many times are reports run each day by external users?**
Reports available to external users is NEW functionality . Today users request the information using a FOIA request.

**Source systems to build the data warehouse and quality of the data and documentation**

Source Systems

 See Section J.7.1.Application Architecture

 Presently
 1) IBM Mainframe with SAG ADABAS/Natural (These systems are currently being re-hosted to an Windows/Unix/Linux Oracle Platform)

- Application Processing System (APS) Application: (EIB-AP-0001)
- Claims and Recovered Debt Servicing System (CARDS) Application: (EIB-CD-0002)
- Rescheduled Debt Servicing System (RLOANS) Application: (EIB –RL-0003)
- Loan and Guarantee Accounting System and Standard General Ledger (LG/A) Application: (EIB-LG-0004)

 2) Intel/Unix/Linux Oracle DBA
- EXIM Online

 Would like to include in new system
 3) Lotus Notes/Domino Applications
- AMS

- ○ ECPS

The current IIS and Hyperion reports have access to about 200 tables and views. These tables and views average about 25 columns each. A number of these field are not used at all by IIS but are downloaded as part of the nightly job

The full existing IIS Data base size for the active data loaded is currently approximately 4.8 GB. Analysis may reveal the need to extract additional data from the operational data stores. The data size could increase if we need to keep time based snapshots of the data.

We have a current data model of the existing IIS in Telelogic Systems Architect 10.4. (IIS presently contains daily downloads from the other systems)

We have, as the result of the rehosting of the Mainframe, a current Oracle data mapping for the following systems
- ○ Application Processing System (APS) Application: (EIB-AP-0001)
- ○ Claims and Recovered Debt Servicing System (CARDS) Application: (EIB-CD-0002)

We have a current data base mapping for EXIM Online

Data Quality

An Example: The main problems with data quality is due to the fact that the systems feeding IIS are silos tracking the life of the transaction at different stages. The main problem is that each of these systems is using it own "Participant file" with errors in typing names or merger of companies, etc (the typical problem of a CRM). In the old records, the tracking of companies using the D&B number was not enforced. Data cleansing will be in this type of area and in some cases, the decision (and DOUMENTATION of the decision) will be to use consistently a specific participant file for a type of product because the overall quality of the information collected by that product is better.

**Are there any tools for extraction of data currently utilized?**

As described in section J.7.1.Application_architecture, Ex-Im Bank uses Software AG's Entire Network to permit web based applications (Lotus Notes/Domino and J2EE applications) located in the Bank's Headquarters facility to exchange information with the Mainframe. Entire-X is used for the Lotus-to-mainframe interface and crossVision Service Orchestrator for the EXIM Online-to-mainframe interface.

For the existing IIS, we use custom Natural programs to write work files that are FTP'd to the SQL Server where they are loaded using SQL Server's bulk load program. The Mainframe FTP connections to the IIS server via an automated Fast Access & Queuing System/Production Control System (FAQS/PCS) job scheduler.

**Some of the 220 current canned reports will not be replaced by the new system. Approximately how many of the canned reports will not be replaced by the new system?**

A number of the existing separate reports are simply drill-down or filtering of information.

With a dashboard and BI tool, a large number of these reports are combined (we expect 30 integrated reports to be produced by the end of task 6)

For example:

In Section J.8.0.Performance Metric, It should be noted that after building D1 and D2, **D4 TO D12** are simply drill downs with specific filters (The information required by these reports/dashboards is already compiled to produce D1 and D2)

## Hyperion product is in place? Does Ex-Im currently own licenses for Hyperion Dashboard Builder? Are you currently using (i.e. Hyperion Interactive Reporting, Hyperion Web Analysis, Hyperion Essbase, Hyperion Essbase Visual Explorer, Hyperion financial applications (i.e. Hyperion Financial Management, Hyperion Performance Scorecard, etc)?

We are **ONLY** using Hyperion Performance Suite 8.5.
We are not using or own Hyperion Essbase, Hyperion Financial applications or ScoreCard

## Are vendors supposed to propose and acquire  the project tools such as ETL and dashboard?
The tools selected by the vendor will be evaluated and justified.  The contractor should estimate the cost as part of the proposal.  After award of the contract and after the evaluation and approval by te Government of the selection, the contractor will acquire the SW for the Bank.  The Bank will pay the real cost of these products as ODC

## Will the Bank provide for a development and test hardware and software environment for the contractor's use during this effort?
YES

## Task 5:  scope of "backup and recovery procedures"
The contractor shall develop a plan on how to (Not the actual backup and recovery) for the tool and the data warehouse  (It does not include server/network backups)  There are no high availability requirements (72 recovery is acceptable  but the Bank may make available 2 servers as hot backups) .  The existing COOP plan is under revision and cannot be included YET to fit within this initiative

## Can the vendor append additional labor categories  (additional columns) as required to the  price proposal.

YES


## OTHER


## Why does the proposed solution hold the contractor responsible for training internal Hyperion power users and developers?
The objective is for the Bank to be able to continue the development of additional reports through good training/documentation. The Government also has the option (through optional tasks) to continue the development and maintenance with the contractor

## What is the standard review procedure for approving each deliverable, including timing and turnaround?

2-3 days depending on the size of the document.  SME will work closely with the contractor and will be well versed in the deliverables and be able to review them quickly  (This is a high visibility project at the Bank)

**How do we minimize the risk of  "The Contractor and the Government will mutually agree on a subset of data and reports needed to demonstrate the proof of concept",**
The purpose of the proof of concept is simple: 1) ensure that the selected tools and architecture are going to produce the objective of the SOW; 2) ensure senior management is comfortable with navigation in a dashboard and has the opportunity to provide high level comments on the overall proposed functionality; 3) provide a small number of sample reports with real data to ensure buy in.  Depending on the complexity of the tools proposed, the Government will work with the contractor to tailor the scope of item 3 and will use its own Government estimate for this line if the proposed scope is out of scope for a "Proof of concept/demo" tailored with the Bank's terminology and real data.